

# **Commission on Aging**

## **Minutes of the March 12, 2012 Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Will Bigl (2012), April Holinko (2014), Bev Korba (2014), Don Nolan (2014), Carol Pellegrine (2012), Joan Quarto (2012), Joan Terry, (2014)

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: Marilyn Gerling (Sr. Ctr. Assn.), Emil Poirier (Jensen's), Jan Scottron (Glen Ridge), Martina Wharton (Juniper Hill)

STAFF: Kevin Grunwald

REGRETS: Laurie McMorrow (2014)

ABSENT: Sam Gordon (2012)

Minutes: The minutes of the February meeting were approved with one correction. Don Nolan should be listed as Regret not Absent.

Correspondence – There was no correspondence.

Wellness Center – Kevin announced that Barbara Lavoie has arranged to have Rep. Joe Courtney come to speak at the Senior Center on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> regarding medicare. Hopefully a representative from the Medicare Advocacy office will be available as well. We are all urged to invite folks to attend.

Senior Center – Kevin circulated copies of Cindy Dainton's February report. He also told us that the sign for the Senior Center has been ordered and that the Senior Center Association has agreed to pay for half of its cost.

Agency Funding Requests – Three requests were reviewed. Motions were made to recommend funding the Windham Region Transit District, the Community Companion and Homemaking Services and Meals on Wheels at their requested levels. Each motion passed.

Meeting with League of Women Voters – We have been asked to attend the LWV meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Council Chambers. The group is interested in hearing about the work of the Commission. Hopefully many of our members will be able to attend to support April and to help answer questions from League members. Bring a sandwich, dessert and drinks provided.

Mansfield Strategic Plan – The items in the Plan were discussed and we agreed the most important one is the need for a larger Senior Center facility. Will suggested that we keep this need before the Town Council while they are working through the issue of school improvements. Joan Quarto, Will and Marilyn will work on a letter to send to the Council and will bring it to our next meeting for approval.

Triad – Will reported that Triad will do an identity theft program at the First Baptist Church on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:45 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Terry, secretary

## Mansfield 202 Strategic Plan

### **Senior Services Action Items**

1. Encourage the Town Council to build a new Senior Center to meet the need for additional meeting space and parking.
2. Establish a Board of Senior Citizens to oversee and coordinate senior affairs, i.e. Assisted Living
3. Maintain a listing of agencies that provide home care and health services to seniors who choose to remain in their homes
4. Improve local transportation system to benefit all levels of our population.
5. Provide local tax relief for residents who are 70 years and older.
6. Encourage area businesses to provide part- or full-time employment opportunities for seniors.
7. Explore possibility of hosting Senior Summer Olympics in conjunction with UConn.

Proposed Goals for the  
Commission on Aging, 2011-2012

1. Continue to ensure that the needs of seniors are represented in the Town's strategic planning initiative.
2. Promote the development of a new Senior Center as a future initiative for the Town Council to consider.
3. Monitor Mansfield's Long-Range Plan for seniors with a continued focus on priority issues of senior safety, information dissemination, senior center space needs and health care needs including changing federal benefits programs.
4. Continue to advocate for the installation of a bus shelter at the Route 275/Community Center bus stop.